

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO USDOC WASHDC

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UNCLAS DUBLIN 0124

ATTN COMMERCE BIC/OED

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EI

SUBJ: FOREIGN BUYER GROUPS TO U.S. - OFFSHORE TECHNOLOGY

CONFERENCE (OTC) AND EXHIBITION. HOUSTON, TEXAS,

MAY 6-8, 1974

REF: STATE 6636

1. ECON/COMMOFF FURNESS AND FSL BANNON MET JANUARY 22 WITH DR. BENNETT OF IRISH EXPORT BOARD, WHO IS ORGANIZING IRISH PARTICIPATION IN HOUSTON OTC. BENNETT SAID THAT WHILE EXPORT BOARD HAD DECIDED CANCEL ITS RESERVATION FOR EXHIBIT SPACE ON GROUNDS THAT COST OF MOUNTING EXHIBIT WOULD NOT PRODUCE SUFFICIENT RETURN TO MAKE EXPENDITURE WORTHWHILE, BOARD PLANNED TO ORGANIZE TRIP TO OTC BY ABOUT 20 SENIOR IRISH EXECUTIVES OF COMPANIES AND BANKS ALREADY OR POTENTIALLY INVOLVED IN MARINE OR OFFSHORE OPERATIONS. BENNETT HOPES TO HAVE IRISH OFFICIAL OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL LEAD DELEGATION, WHICH WOULD HEADQUARTER AT SHERATON HOTEL, HOUSTON, AND SPEND 3 DAYS AT OTC AND 2 ADDITIONAL DAYS IN APPOINTMENTS WITH APPROPRIATE CONTACTS.

2. EMBASSY STRONGLY URGED BENNETT TO HAVE EXPORT BOARD'S NEW YORK OFFICE (GENERAL MANAGER DONAL SCULLY) MAKE DIRECT CONTACT RE OTC PLANS WITH USDOC BIC/OED OR WITH USDOC FIELD OFFICE NEW YORK.

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3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WILL SUPPORT PROMOTION OF IRISH ATTENDANCE AT SHOW, WHICH IS CERTAINLY WORTHWHILE GIVEN INTENSE IRISH INTEREST IN SEARCH FOR OIL AND GAS IN CELTIC SEA. BELIEVE ARRANGEMENTS CAN MOST CONVENIENTLY BE HANDLED BY EXPORT BOARD THROUGH BENNETT'S EFFORTS ORGANIZE GROUP VISIT AND THROUGH BOARD'S NEW YORK OFFICE, BUT EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE BACK-UP AS NECESSARY. PLEASE FORWARD 30 COPIES ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSION OF PROMOTIONAL BROCHURE AS WELL AS PRODUCT INFORMATION MENTIONED PARA ONE REFTEL. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE NAME OF OFFICER IN BIC/OED WITH WHOM EXPORT BOARD SHOULD MAKE CONTACT. MOORE

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